

A New Species of *Copris* (Coleoptera, Scarabaeidae) from Guizhou, China¹⁾

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Abstract A new species of *Copris* is described from Guizhou, South China under the name of *C. (Copris) pseudochus* sp. nov. The present new species is closely related to *C. (C.) ochus* but can be distinguished from the latter by the following characteristics: the pronotum with the anterior angle truncated; the elytron with very fine striae and flat interstriae.

When we examined a series of specimens of Scarabaeidae from Guizhou, South China, we found three specimens (1 ♂, 2 ♀♀) of a *Copris* species that seemed different from any known Oriental species of this genus. This form appears to be most closely related to *C. (Copris) ochus* MOTSCHULSKY, 1860 that has been recorded from Mongol, northern and middle China, Korea and Japan (BALTHASAR, 1963), but it is distinct from the latter in several external characters and the shape of the male genitalia. Thus, we are going to describe a new species of *Copris* from Guizhou, China.

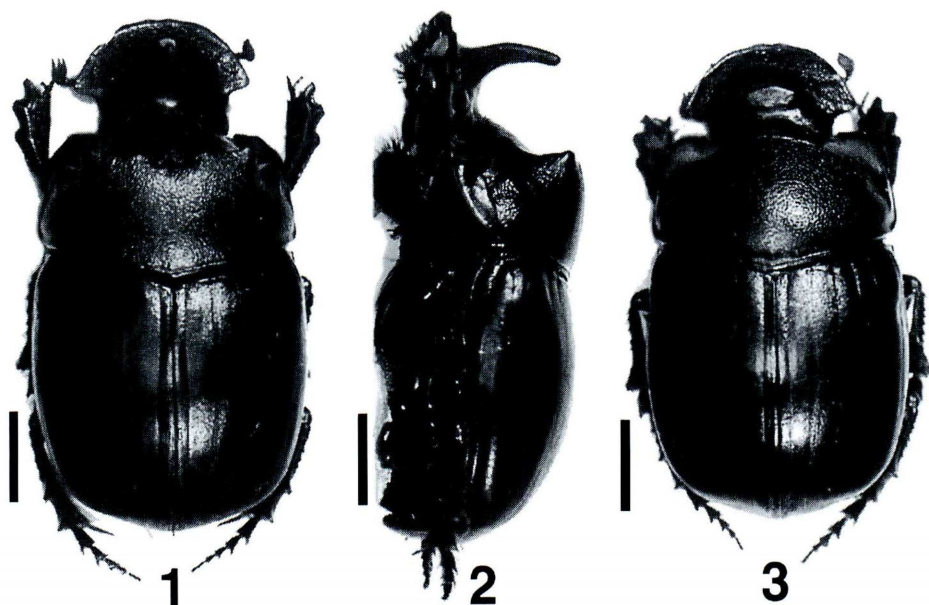
Copris (Copris) pseudochus sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–5)

Length: 26.5–28.5 mm; width: 14.8–15.5 mm (n=3).

Body large-sized, oval, very strongly convex above; dorsal side rather opaque, entirely glabrous; ventral side somewhat shining; pro- and mesosterna sparsely clothed with reddish-brown hairs; metasternum clothed with reddish-brown hairs except for almost glabrous metasternal shield; abdominal sternites clothed with reddish-brown hairs in basal portion along margins. Color entirely black except for mouth parts, palpi,

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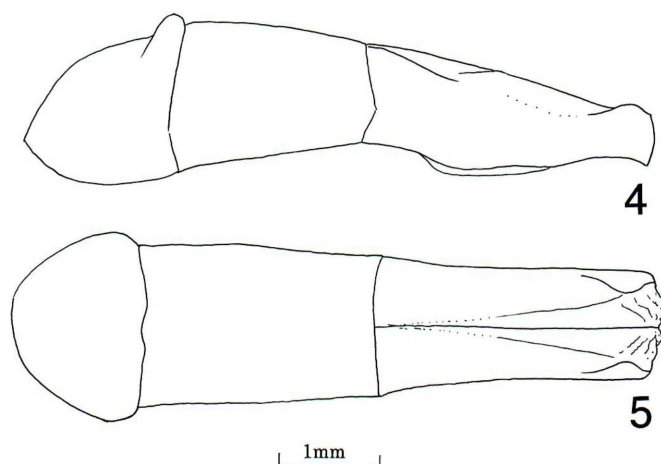


Figs. 1–3. Habitus of *Copris (Copris) pseudochus* sp. nov., scale 5 mm. — 1, Male (holotype) in dorsal view; 2, male (holotype) in left lateral view; 3, female (paratype) in dorsal view.

and antennae blackish-brown.

Male. Head semicircular in outline; clypeus slightly and widely incised at the middle, both sides of the incision reflexed; clypeal margin bordered by a broad marginal line; gena strongly produced laterad, with genal corner a little narrower than right angle, margin distinctly bordered, almost straight in front, strongly curved inwards in posterior portion; cephalic horn placed in the middle, rather short, about 5.5mm in length, tapering and pointed distally, slightly curved backwards, subquadrate in cross-section at base, with a longitudinal carina on either posterior side; area posterior to the base of cephalic horn simple, without a pair of teeth; surface transversely rugose on clypeus, granulate and vaguely punctulate at gena, a little shining, smooth and sparsely punctulate on vertex.

Pronotum very strongly convex, about 1.48 times as wide as long ($n=1$), with an obsolete longitudinal impression along midline in basal three-fifths, coarsely and somewhat rugosely punctate in posterior portion; anterior margin fairly strongly bisinuate and bordered, the marginal border becoming conspicuously broad near sinuation; lateral margins subparallel-sided in basal three-fifths, a little widened anteriad and then again straightly narrowed towards anterior angle, with marginal border fine though distinct in basal three-fifths and not distinct in apical two-fifths; anterior angle truncated, with outer corner obtuse; posterior angle rounded; basal margin clearly bordered, obtusely angulate at the middle; disc strongly convex above in posterior three-fifths and sloping down anteriad in anterior two-fifths; the upper edge of the slope forming a pair



Figs. 4–5. Male genitalia of *Copris (Copris) pseudochus* sp. nov., scale 1 mm; 4, right lateral view; 5, dorsal view.

of obtuse transverse carinae in central portion, the carina distinctly produced at the outer and inner extremities, the former is a little larger than the latter; the anterior slope slightly hollowed in front of the carina, depressed near anterior angle, rugose and sculptured in the middle, smooth and impunctate laterally; lateral portion also sloping down outwards, with a small pointed tubercle near the middle, with a short curved longitudinal carina near lateral margin.

Elytra strongly convex, about 1.1 times as wide as long ($n=1$), each with ten striae, the 9th and 10th confluent in the basal third, then separated towards apex; the 1st and 10th, the 2nd and 9th, the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 8th joined at apex, the 6th and 7th not clearly joined at apex; the 8th interrupted a little prior to the junction with the 3rd; all the striae weakly, shallowly, and very finely impressed, with striaal punctures small, simple, not distinctly crenulating interstriae; interstriae entirely flat, densely and micro-rugosely puncticulate throughout.

Pygidium gently convex, rather densely, coarsely, and indefinitely punctate on basal half, somewhat shining and almost impunctate on apical half. Metasternum with a longitudinal impression along midline in basal seven-tenths, then suddenly effaced towards apex; metasternal shield a little lustrous, almost glabrous, sparsely and finely punctate except for the basal portion rather densely and coarsely punctate; lateral part fairly densely covered with strong punctures bearing long setae. Meso- and metafemora with ventral side sparsely and finely punctate, the punctures becoming coarser at apical portion. Protibia broad, with three strong lateral teeth; terminal spur normal, pointed at apex.

Aedeagus robust, about 6.2 mm in total length. Parameres about 2.7 mm in length, about 1.29 times as long as phallobase; apical part distinctly compressed and not attenuate, dorsal lobe slightly but clearly raised in lateral view.

Female. Head with a strongly elevated transverse carina on vertex, which is well arched, sharp at the summit, and occupying two-thirds width between eyes; gena with genal corner a little wider than that of male, posterior margin more gently curved inwards than in the male. Pronotum briefly and slightly declivous in front, with the upper edge of the declivity forming a well arched transverse carina; lateral margin finely bordered throughout; surface a little unevenly, coarsely, and somewhat rugosely punctate except near anterior angle. Elytron more lustrous than in the male. Otherwise like the male.

Type series. Holotype: ♂, NE. Guizhou, China, 1998. Paratypes: 2 ♀♀, the same data as for the holotype. The holotype is at present preserved in the collection of the National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo.

Notes. The present new species is closely related to *Copris* (*Copris*) *ochus*, but can be distinguished from the latter by the following characteristics: 1) the pronotum with the anterior angle truncated, whereas in *C. ochus*, it is strongly produced forwards; 2) the pronotum with the lateral margin almost straight in basal three-fifths, whereas in *C. ochus*, it is almost evenly rounded; 3) the elytron with the interstriae flat, not convex, not clearly crenulating along the margin; 4) the elytral striae very fine, with small punctures, whereas in *C. ochus*, they are rather broad, with large punctures; 5) in the male, the prothoracic carina not strongly produced on either side; 6) in the male genitalia, the paramere compressed and not attenuate at the apex, whereas in *C. ochus*, it is gradually attenuate towards the apex.

要 約

越智輝雄・近 雅博：中国貴州省からのダイコクコガネ属 *Copris* の1新種。—— 中国貴州省からダイコクコガネ属 *Copris* の1新種を，*C. (Copris) pseudochus* sp. nov. と名付け記載した。本新種は *C. (C.) ochus* にもっとも近縁のものだと思われるが，前胸背板の前角が切断状であることと，鞘翅の溝がかすかで，鞘翅の間室が平らであることによって，後者と区別することができる。

References

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